

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-41. (cancelled)

42. (currently amended) A method for making an article comprising at least one piece of sheet-form melamine foam having a thickness which is sufficiently small to exhibit flexibility and no flexural elasticity, ~~wherein a melamine foam block is cut by peeling into a strip~~ comprising the steps of:

tangentially cutting into an exterior surface of a melamine foam block with a blade having a cutting edge aligned tangentially to said exterior surface so as to peel a strip of melamine foam from said melamine foam block, said strip having a thickness which is sufficiently small to exhibit flexibility and no flexural elasticity; ~~and wherein the~~

deriving at least one piece of sheet-form melamine foam from said strip; and

forming an article is made using from said at least one piece of sheet-form melamine foam, said article having a total thickness derived from this strip.

43. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 42 ~~for making an article having two opposing main free faces with a total thickness which is sufficiently small to exhibit~~

~~flexibility and no flexural elasticity, wherein, further~~  
comprising the step of

attaching at least one layer, ~~known as the~~ reinforcing  
layer ~~is attached~~ to each piece of sheet-form melamine foam,

wherein said article comprises two opposing main free  
faces and the total thickness is sufficiently small to exhibit  
flexibility and no flexural elasticity, and so that

at least one of the main free faces of said article has  
a scouring free face formed at least in part by at least one  
piece of melamine foam.

44. (previously presented) The method as claimed in  
claim 42, wherein said melamine foam block is cut by peeling into  
a strip having a thickness of less than or equal to 1 mm.

45. (previously presented) The method as claimed in  
claim 42, wherein said melamine foam block is cut by peeling into  
a strip having a thickness of approximately 0.8 mm.

46. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim  
43, ~~wherein each piece of melamine foam is attached to least one~~  
~~reinforcing layer so as to obtain~~

wherein said article comprises a melamine foam layer  
having a main face which defines a scouring free face of the  
article and, superimposed on ~~[[the]]~~ said melamine foam layer, a  
reinforcing layer ~~of this type~~ having a main face that defines  
the other free face ~~of the article~~.

47. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the reinforcing layer is a layer of melamine foam.

48. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the reinforcing layer is made of a material that is different from a melamine foam and ~~is adapted to have~~ has a tear strength higher than that of ~~[[the]]~~ said melamine foam.

49. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein ~~an article is produced, of which~~ said article comprises two opposing main free faces and the total thickness is sufficiently small to exhibit flexibility and no flexural elasticity, and

at least one of the main free faces is an absorbent free face formed at least in part by at least one piece of absorbent material.

50. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein ~~[[an]]~~ said article ~~having~~ comprises at least one reinforcing layer ~~[[is]]~~ produced from an absorbent material.

51. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein ~~an article is produced, which~~ said article comprises a layer of melamine foam having a main face defining the scouring free face of the article and, superimposed on the melamine foam layer and made of an absorbent material, a reinforcing layer having a main face defining the absorbent free face of the article.

52. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the opposing main free faces are both scouring faces and are formed by two distinct layers of melamine foam between which at least one reinforcing layer is interposed.

53. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein ~~an article having a~~ the total thickness of said article is less than 5 mm ~~is produced~~.

54. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein ~~an article having a~~ the total thickness of said article is approximately 0.85 to 2 mm ~~is produced~~.

55. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein each reinforcing layer is produced from a fibrous material mainly containing fibers selected from: cellulose fibers, natural textile fibers, synthetic textile fibers.

56. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 43, wherein each reinforcing layer is produced from a material selected from: a cellulose nonwoven, a viscose nonwoven, a perforated cotton nonwoven, a polyamide knit, a cotton gauze, a polyurethane foam, a polyethylene foam.

57. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 42, further comprising the step of impregnating said article with a liquid composition, wherein at least a portion of the total thickness of said article is impregnated with ~~[[a]]~~ the liquid composition before being packaged.

58. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 57, wherein the liquid composition used is selected from the group consisting of: a detergent, a solvent, a bacteriostatic and/or bactericidal disinfectant composition, water ~~or a mixture~~ and mixtures thereof.

59. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 57, wherein the liquid composition used is selected from the group consisting of: a moisturizing solution, a soap, a deodorant, a perfume, a make-up removing composition, an emollient, an ointment, an antiseptic, water, hydrogen peroxide solution ~~or a mixture~~ and mixtures thereof.

60. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 42, ~~wherein~~ further comprising the step of incorporating into at least a portion of the total thickness of said article a solid composition capable of dissolving in the presence of a liquid so as to be able to release an active agent ~~is incorporated into at least a portion of the thickness of said article.~~

61. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 42, ~~wherein~~ further comprising the step of wrapping said article ~~is wrapped~~ in an individual or collective impermeable packaging.

62. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~[[42]]~~ 43, wherein the ~~various layers of said article are~~ said at least one reinforcing layer is attached to each piece of sheet-form melamine foam is laminated in pairs by means of an intermediate heat-activable heat-activated adhesive film.

63-82. (cancelled)

83. (new) The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein said strip is peeled from said melamine foam block as a continuous strip.

84. (new) The method as claimed in claim 42, further comprising the step of rotating said melamine foam block during said tangentially cutting step.

85. (new) The method as claimed in claim 84, further comprising the steps of withdrawing said strip and winding said strip around a rotating shaft.

86. (new) The method as claimed in claim 85, wherein said strip is peeled from said melamine foam block as a continuous strip.

87. (new) The method as claimed in claim 42, further comprising the step of collecting said strip by withdrawing said strip and winding said strip around a rotating shaft.

88. (new) The method as claimed in claim 87, wherein said strip is a continuous strip peeled from said melamine foam block.

89. (new) The method as claimed in claim 42, further comprising the steps of:

rotating said melamine foam block while tangentially cutting; and

withdrawing said strip as it is peeled from said melamine foam block and winding said strip around a rotating

shaft, said rotating shaft being synchronized with said rotating melamine foam block so as to collect a continuous strip of melamine foam from said block.